

Q&A – Town Hall
February 24, 2000

1. Is the reorg really about reducing cost of ES&H at the Laboratory level?

Cost reduction is not a primary driver. The Lab is committed to reducing the cost of ES&H and facilities management in the long term. In the short term, cost reduction is unlikely.

2. How do we retain core competencies?

Retention of adequate core competency is a key challenge for us. It is our problem to solve as we move forward.

3. Why does it seem radiation protection teams are most discussed as provocative?

The RP teams are large in numbers of people and dollars. Their processes are rigorous and address areas with significant liability issues for the Laboratory. The deployed approach has worked well. For the customer, organizational style is likely the important driver – whether a specific management team wishes to continue with deployment or move to divestiture. We believe it important to offer the customer the opportunity to choose.

4. Where to processes such as the ESH ID fall?

Centralized Services. If effective tools existed could be deployed.

5. If deployed, how would it work because not resources exist in the line organizations?

The Lab has significant organizational diversity that can be brought to the issue. It is an area of concern that would have to be addressed before deployment of such processes.

6. In regard to the assurance organization, what is an inspection process?

Activities such as our quasi-regulatory environmental reviews or construction and electrical inspections.

7. What about the Audits and Assessments organization?

Our process assumptions state that we will remain within our span of control. Therefore, we are not addressing any issues with regard to AA.

8. What is our deadline?

Our proposal is to be submitted to the deputy Laboratory director for operations by March 31, 2000. Upon approval, we will initiate the implementation process, which will not be an overnight transition.

9. How can be hire for core needs?

Under the current hiring restrictions we have and will identify our strategic hires. At this time we have two such positions identified to support ergonomics and radiation dose assessment.